METHOD AND DEVICE FOR TRANSFERRING ARTICLES
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The method described controls the transfer of articles (FS) which are to be delivered within the shortest possible time by a delivery conveyor (AGF) to unoccupied places on a receiver conveyor (ANF). The receiver conveyor (ANF) moves at constant speed V_{ANF} and makes an angle (small alpha, Greek) with the delivery conveyor (AGF) which is divided into at least a buffer belt (PB), an acceleration belt (AB; AB1, AB2) and a transfer belt (EB). The following parameters: the instantaneous speed v_{UE} of an article at time t2, the speed v_{ES} at which the article has to be delivered, following acceleration, onto the transfer belt (EB), the measured length of the article I'_{FS}, the length I_{AB} of the acceleration belt (AB; AB1, AB2), at least approximately the length of the path (b_{AB} * tan (small alpha, Greek)) which the article (FS) has already covered, following the length measurement at time t2, on the acceleration belt (AB; AB1, AB2)

and the position of the next unoccupied place on the receiver belt (ANF) parameters which can be measured and/or adjusted by a control unit (ST1, ST2), are used to determine the length of time t'_{SYN} during which the article (FS) with an acceleration a will have to be accelerated and decelerated, or decelerated and accelerated, in order that, when the article is delivered onto the transfer belt (EB), it is synchronized with the next unoccupied place on the receiving conveyor (ANF). The method and device proposed make it possible to reduce disruptive dead time in the transfer of articles of the same or different sizes. In addition, the method proposed brings about an acceleration of the transfer operation, calculated as a function of the position of the container into which an article is to be transferred and the size of the article, and makes it possible to synchronize the time of arrival of articles with that of unoccupied containers which, in prior art methods, would arrive too early and would travel past, unused, on the receiver conveyor.